

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 remain pending in this application with claims 1 and 8 being amended by this response.

Rejection of claims 1-8 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1-8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Demura (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0099996) in view of Greenblat (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0212830) and further in view of Yuan (U.S. Patent No. 6,526,477).

The Examiner has objected to claim 9 because it is dependent upon a rejected base claim, but has indicated that it would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants wish to express their gratitude to the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter and have added the limitations of claim 9 to claim 8, and cancelled claim 9. Therefore, claim 8 should now be allowable. Similarly, the limitations of claim 9 have been added to claim 1, so Applicants believe that claim 1 is now also allowable.

In view of these amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 8 are patentable over Demura, Greenblat and Yuan when taken alone or in any combination. As claims 2-7 and 10 are dependent on claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable for the same reasons as claim 1. Thus, it is further respectfully submitted that this rejection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections, it is believed that, in view of the amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at the phone number below, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

No fee is believed due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge the fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,
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